

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
Koichiro TANAKA) Group Art Unit: 9528
Application No. 10/769,820)
Filed: February 3, 2004) Confirmation No. 3742
Title: LASER IRRADIATION STAGE, LASER)
IRRADIATION OPTICAL SYSTEM,)
LASER IRRADIATION APPARATUS,)
LASER IRRADIATION METHOD, AND)
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A)
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. In accordance with the policies of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, only copies of newly cited foreign patents and non-patent literature are being submitted.

All of the listed Japanese documents were cited in an Office Action of a counterpart Japanese Application No. 2002-174158 on February 24, 2009.

Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 09-106948 is in the same family as U.S. Patent No. 5,907,770 (already cited); U.S. Patent No. 6,902,616 (already cited); and U.S. Patent No. 7,513,949. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 09-063985 is in the same family as U.S. Patent No. 5,820,650

(already cited). These family patents, including newly cited U.S. Patent No. 7,513,949 were NOT cited in the foreign communication, but is provided for the Examiner's assistance..

The undersigned certifies (with the exception of family patent U.S. Patent No. 7,513,949 noted above) that either (1) each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$180.00 fee required in connection with this filing, and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

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